

2



» Donate your wedding gown



To taste

Sample wines from the Piedmont region of Italy from 6 to 7 p.m. Thursday at Macy's (111 N. State St.) for \$20. R.S.V.P. to 312-781-3692.

To shop

Preview spring fashions from Chicago designers Horacio Nieto, Anna Fong and Jessica Audey at a trunk show from 5 to 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 3 to 6 p.m. Saturday at le Dress (1741 W. Division St.).

To donate

If you have a wedding gown that is less than 7 years old, bring it to White Chicago (222 W. Huron St.) before March 19 to donate to Brides Against Breast Cancer's annual gown sale.

To watch

Catch "Sleepy Hollow," a new folk musical about the Headless Horseman, at the Theatre Building Chicago (1225 W. Belmont Ave.) at 7 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday and 3:30 p.m. Sunday. \$15-\$25.



Aye, aye caption

Smith

Text us a funny caption for the photo above and we'll print the best in Friday's RedEye. To give it a shot, text the word "caption" followed by your brief caption and your name to 47383. Good luck!



Wednesday's winner: "Wow only 10 seconds in Chicago and this is what

happens." -Terry Jones



Oh, happy but lots

Cloudy, breezy, a few

sprinkles-but warm!

Some

The sun's

Celebrity twin Do you look like a celebrity? Show us! Send

your picture along with the name of the celeb who shares your style to dihernandez@ tribune.com. For Thursday, we have Delancey Finney. Think he's a ringer for Will Smith? Text "will" and the number of your opinion to 47383. You'll get the poll results instantly. 1. Dead on 2. Way off



3 PIECE PACKAGE!



Finney

"You don't have to spend a lot,

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Bonded Leather Sofa \$499.99

Saturday 10am-6pm

Sunday 11am-6pm

MARCH 5, 2009 I REDEYE newsflash

The economy: Rocking us all like a hurricane

RedEve

Gone are the days when you could call the world's economy a mere "crisis."

Now, we're sitting in the middle of big freakin' hurricane, according to British Prime Minister Gordon Brown.

In a formal address before Congress on Wednesday, Brown said the world is in the grips of an "economic hurricane."

Despite some recently expressed optimism, even President Obama's characterization of our financial health has darkened. In January he warned of a worsening "slowdown," which in February became a "crisis," with Obama even hinting at "catastrophe."

But a hurricane? RedEye offers a few alternatives to fit the current mood.

WE'RE NOT IN AN ECONOMIC HURRICANE, WE'RE IN AN ECONOMIC ...

>> Tar pit: Sticky and smelly, the tar pit evokes that slow, sinking feeling you get monitoring



>> Armpit: Sticky, smelly and (what a bonus!) sometimes hairy.

your stocks.



>> Afterthe-rose ceremony: A wrenching experience that leaves most of its participants in tears.



>> Bowl of Shredded Wheat that has turned soggy: Just a big, mushy disappointment—a far cry from its former greatness.





President Obama, joined by Sen. John McCain of Arizona, discusses government reforms Wednesday. ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/TRIBUNE

Mortgage help

Breaking down Obama's 'Making Home Affordable' plan

Associated Press

President Obama's new mortgage relief plan, launched Wednesday, aims to help up to 9 million borrowers qualify for more affordable mortgages and stay in their homes—either by refinancing or changing the terms of the loan.

Are you one of them?

Here are some questions and answers about the latest round of aid for homeowners.

How do I know if I qualify for the refinancing plan?

Only homeowners in good standing whose loans are held by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac qualify.

The property must be owner-occupied and the borrower must have enough income to make payments on the new mortgage debt.

Borrowers can't owe more than 105 percent of their home's current value on their first mortgage. For example, if your home is worth \$200,000, your first mort-

gage can't exceed \$210,000. Borrowers have until June 2010 to apply for the program.

How do I know if my mortgage is owned by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac?

Call your current lender or mortgage servicer. You can also contact Fannie Mae at **1-800-7FANNIE** and Freddie Mac at **1-800-FREDDIE** from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Or, go to **fanniemae.com/homeaffordable** and **freddiemac.com/avoidforeclosure** and fill out the online request forms.

What borrowers qualify for the modification program?

You don't have to be behind on your mortgage payments to qualify. Delinquent borrowers and current borrowers who are at risk of imminent default are both eligible.

The program applies to mortgages made on Jan. 1 or earlier. The mortgage payment including taxes, insurance and homeowners association dues must

exceed 31 percent of the borrowers' gross monthly income.

The property must be the homeowner's primary residence. Eligible borrowers will have to provide their most recent tax return and two pay stubs, as well as an "affidavit of financial hardship" to qualify for the loan modification program.

Borrowers are allowed to have their loans modified only once. The program runs through Dec. 31, 2012.

What if I don't qualify for either program is there any other way to get help with a mortgage?

Contact your lender or mortgage servicer regarding other options. Alternatively, contact a local housing counselor to negotiate with your lender or servicer, to help locate other local resources like rescue grants or loans. Local housing counselors can be found at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Web site at www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sfh/hcc/hcs.cfm.

Brighten your Spring with a **New Straight Smile**

You can have the straight smile of your dreams this year with Invisalign from Dr. Willerman. Dr. Willerman is a certified invisalign provider with an office near "the bean" and Millennium Park. Give him a call today to discover how easy it is to have a straight beautiful smile.











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four MARK BAZER

ritaredeye @tribune.com

MORE BAZER

Mark Bazer hosts "The Interview Show" Friday at 6:30 p.m. at the Hideout (1354 W. Wabansia). His guests include "Check, Please!" creator David Manilow.

TALK TO US

What's your take on things? You, too, can be a guest columnist.

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 your comment
 to **47383**.
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 discussion at
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Haggling in the new economy

"There are no two finer words in the English language than 'encased meats,' my friend."

That's the motto of the mouthwatering, taste-bud-dazzling, mood-lifting, wait-in-line-ability-testing, foie-gras-ban-defying North Side hot dog joint known as Hot Doug's.

And I agree with the sentiment, at least when I'm at Hot Doug's. Now, thanks to the father-in-law of a good friend, I'd like to add that there are no seven finer words in the English language than: "Is that the best you can do?"

I'm talking about the art of the haggle.

As in: Mr. Salesperson, that LCD TV costs \$599? Is that the best you can do? Mr. Landlord, the rent is \$900 a month? Is that the best you can do? Mr. Vending Machine, those Cheetos Flamin' Hots are 70 cents? Is that the best you can do?

My friend's father-in-law is a leader in the field of price negotiation, and he manages it all with those seven beautiful words and the confidence they've given him. After he says it to a store manager, you half expect him to follow with, "These are not the droids you're looking for."

As the fat cats who sunk us all collect bailouts to pay for things like private Sheryl Crow concerts (true; see last week's Maureen Dowd column in The New York Times), my friend's father-in-law, and those with comparable cojones, are leading the rest of us into the new, disheveled economy.

It used to be there were only two products you could haggle for in America: cars and ... mattresses. (Have you also noticed that all mattress stores keep their lights on after closing? That, though, is a subject for another column, or a book.)

But now, with once-intrepid American consumers less confident than Pepe Le Pew upon finally learning he emits a foul odor, everything is negotiable. My friend's father-in-law now even pulls out the "Is that the best you can do?" at big-box stores—and succeeds.

This is the point in the story where we used to be required by the Newspaper Association of America to support our argument with a quote from an "expert" nobody's ever heard of who really, really wants to be quoted. However, due to space reductions imposed across the newspaper industry, that rule has temporarily been suspended. So, we move on.

Now, you may feel that successful haggling makes you look cheap. Or that failed haggling is humiliating. I used to be with you. But those were different times—before the economy became a parody of a bad economy.

And that's what's so great about those fine seven English words, "Is that the best you can do?" It's almost a parody of how to haggle.

Go ahead and try it. Watch the store manager give you a "Did you really just say that?" look. Then inch your way to the door. Then watch the manager say, "How much do you want to pay for it?" Then, name your price. Then exalt in the glory of your triumph. Then, please, mail the difference to AIG.



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General Manager: Brad Moore Editor: Tran Ha Ad Director: Lisa Schmitz

CONTACT US
Letter to the editor: ritaredeye@tribune.com
Newsroom: 312-222-4970 Advertising: 312-222-3886
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LOTTERY WINNERS ANONYMOUS

By Tracy Swartz | REDEYE

Money didn't change everything for James Dybas of Brighton Park—in fact, money changed almost nothing.

When Dybas won several thousand dollars on an Illinois Lottery scratchoff ticket in November, he told only his family and a few close friends.

He didn't quit his job or buy a Porsche or a Rolex or a yacht with the lump sum he received the day after Christmas. Instead, he set aside a portion for a family cruise to Jamaica. The rest, he said, is in savings for a future home purchase in the suburbs.

Dybas, 31, wasn't concerned about inheriting the lottery winner's curse of going bust. He was worried about the recession.

"With the money that I won, if I ever did lose my job I kind of have a cushion until I find another one," said Dybas, who works in

Welcome to the not-so-glamorous side of winning the lottery. Illinois winners who talked to RedEye said they are playing it safe and smart by forsaking luxury in this economy in favor of building a savings account.

They aren't telling members of their extended family or co-workers for fear that they will be hit up for money. Many of the winners contacted by RedEye were even skittish to have their names - or, like Dybas, the amount of money they won-printed in the paper because they don't want to draw attention to their nouveau riches.

Nevertheless, more Americans are emptying their pockets to play the lottery. Scientific Games, a scratch-off ticket manufacturer, said 25 of 42 states with lotteries have seen sales of scratch-off and daily lottery games rise since July.

Illinois officials say they are witnessing little-to-no change in overall sales over the past year, but the game might change locally. State Senate President John Cullerton, a Chicago Democrat, said last month he'd like a private company to oversee the Illinois Lottery, which has been a state-run agency for nearly 35 years.

Cullerton also dangled the idea of selling Illinois Lottery tickets on the Internet, though it's unclear whether federal law would allow it. No other state sells lottery tickets online.

There was no word on how this would affect the state's 7,500-plus lottery retailers, who get a commission on winning tickets. In the fiscal year that ended in 2008, retailers received about \$140 million in commissions and bonuses.

At 26th And Kedzie Gas in Little Village, lottery business has been very good over the last year. Four winning \$25,000 Pick 4 tickets were purchased at the gas station, one of the top sellers of winning tickets in the city.

"It's lucky because it's always busy," said assistant manager Sergio Martinez, who added that he had personally won \$1,000 on a \$20 instant ticket.

The Illinois Lottery's game offerings include Mega Millions (current jackpot: \$12 million for Friday's drawing), Lotto (match three-to-six numbers for a prize) and instant scratch-off tickets (32 different games that cost up to \$20 each).

After they win, Lotto and Mega Millions players have 60 days from the date of the drawing to decide whether to claim a onetime lump sum or payments over 25 years. If they wait until after 60 days to claim their prize, winners automatically receive the 26payment plan.

All other Illinois Lottery games are paid in a lump sum.

And don't forget about the taxes. The federal government withholds 25 percent from prize amounts exceeding \$5,000, while the state takes 3 percent from prize amounts of \$1,000 and up.

Lottery sales totaled \$2 billion in the fiscal year that ended in July, up 2.8 percent from the previous year. Of that money, 58 percent went to winners, 7 percent went to lottery



MEGA PRI

It may go down as the best memo Bob Space (above) ever wrote: "We won the big one!" He sent it Wednesday morning to nine fellow employees at an insurance company in central New Jersey who may soon share a \$216 million Mega Millions jackpot. Lottery officials say no one has officially come forward to claim the prize yet, but the ticket the group showed reporters Wednesday matched the winning numbers. AP

retailers and 3 percent paid for operating expenses.

The lottery contributed the leftover 32 percent, about \$657 million, to the Common School Fund to help pay for education funding, as required by law.

Diane Boisvert of Old Irving Park has been a longtime contributor-typically with no payoff. That is, until Christmas Eve.

That day, Boisvert bought Lotto tickets for herself and her co-workers, who pool their money for the weekly drawing. On a whim, Boisvert, who has regularly bought lottery tickets since she was 18, separately purchased a \$5 scratch-off ticket. She won \$50,000.

"It was a lovely Christmas," said Boisvert, though she said she didn't blow any money on herself. "I paid off my car. I had three years left on that. To me that was a big weight off my shoulders. ... In this economy, it's best to have a little nest egg in case I'm laid off."



out of her parents' home. Her mother, for the record, seems to be more happy about the winnings than Boisvert. Her mom called all of her relatives, while Boisvert just told her co-workers, though not because of the recession.

"I didn't feel that pressure to kind of keep it quiet because someone had just lost a job," Boisvert said. "I'm pretty good at saying

Cheryl Musial, on the other hand, said she told just one friend because "everyone will say, 'I want some money.'"

Musial, of the Near North Side, won \$40,000 on a scratch-off ticket before Christmas. She said that was the first time she played the lottery.

"I couldn't even talk. I was out of breath. I was flipping out," said Musial, 47. "I put it in the bank right away." TSWARTZ@TRIBUNE.COM



chicago

Loose tongue led to Yang arrest

Chicago Tribune

As Rhoni Reuter lay dying on her kitchen floor, Marni Yang paused to look at an ultrasound photo of the baby Reuter hoped to deliver in two months, officials said. Before leaving Reuter's Deerfield condo, they said, Yang took a few personal items of Reuter's, including a silver and pearl bracelet inscribed with one word: Pregnant.

Intensely jealous of Reuter's relationship with former Chicago Bear Shaun Gayle, and of her pregnancy with his daughter, Yang on Oct. 4, 2007, shot and killed Reuter and her unborn child Skylar, prosecutors said Wednesday. Reuter, 42,

was shot seven times, including twice in the abdomen.

According to authorities, Yang spent months plotting the murder and hatched a plan in painstaking detail to cover her tracks - adding stolen plates to a getaway car that she had rented with someone else's credit card, wearing a wig in disguise, and burying the murder weapon in a bucket of cement.

"This was a murder that was committed in cold blood," said Lake County State's Atty. Mike Waller.

Yang, 41, had been the chief suspect for months, authorities said, but they didn't have enough to charge her. In the end, it was her own loose tongue, sharing telltale details with a friend, that cinched her arrest, authorities said.

Prosecutors say Yang and Gayle dated, but Gayle insisted he never dated Yang and wasn't aware of her desire to be his girlfriend. She had a history of harassing women who were involved with Gayle, Deerfield police said.

"This individual wanted to replace Rhoni. She was trying to get Rhoni out of the way so she could possibly foster a relationship," Gayle said as he stood outside the Waukegan courthouse



3

Homicide tracker

This was another bad week for the Austin neighborhood.

A 36-year-old man was fatally shot outside his home Tuesday morning. Five homicides have occurred in Austin since the beginning of the year, according to a RedEye analysis of preliminary police data.

Meanwhile, February ended last week with a total of 26 homicides, up from 20 in February 2008, RedEye found. So far this month, there have been two homicides. Chicago police recorded 33 homicides in March 2008, according to a police press release. REDEYE

Homicides from Feb. 27 to 4 p.m. Wednesday

- 2600 BLOCK OF W. 25TH ST. Date: Feb. 27 Location: Alley Victims: 1
- 10500 BLOCK OF S. NORMAL AVE. Date: March1 Location: Residence Victims: 1
- 5500 BLOCK OF W. MONROE ST. Date: March 3 Location: Street Victims: 1



MORE ONLINE ...

For an interactive version of the map, go to redeyechicago.com/homicides.

... AND IN REDEYE

In every Thursday's paper, RedEve will publish a map of the homicides from the previous week. The interactive map on our Web site also will be updated weekly.

His beef with the economy

Joseph Zucchero, owner of Mr. Beef on Orleans, testifies Wednesday before a congressional committee as evidence of "the impact-or lack of impact" that federal bailout funds are having on FOR THE TRIBUNE

small businesses. The River North restaurant, which Zucchero opened 30 years ago, is facing foreclosure. **BRENDAN HOFFMAN**



New mall coming to area

Rosemont has agreed to sell 14 acres of village-owned property to a joint venture that plans to build a \$275 million enclosed outlet mall in the northwest suburb, officials said Wednesday. The two-level, 120-store mall would be known as Fashion Outlets of Chicago at Rosemont, officials said. It would be built just east of the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) at Balmoral Avenue.

Man guilty in girl's death

As Moses Phillips was found guilty of slaying a 10-year-old girl at her surprise birthday party, his godmother slowly shook her head. Siretha Woods said nothing, even as deputies hustled Phillips' wailing relatives out of the room. For Woods, the verdict was bittersweetthe girl Phillips killed was her daughter, Siretha White, cut down by a bullet meant for a rival gang two days before she would have turned 11.

Judge finds Weis in contempt

A federal judge Wednesday found Chicago Police Supt. Jody Weis in contempt for defying an order to turn over a list of police officers with multiple citizen complaints. The Chicago Police Department was ordered in December by a judge to submit a "repeater list" of officers who have accumulated at least five complaints since 2002. But Weis declined to provide the list before a deadline, contending that naming the officers would threaten their safety and hurt department morale. Mayor Daley has backed Weis' decision.



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Sunday, March 8 - 11am - 5pm Monday, March 9 - 10am - 9pm

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No Interest til

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Preed
Nadim Abdul-Zahra (center), who spent
one year in U.S. military custody, is greeted
Wednesday by his family after his release
in Baghdad. He was among 20 prisoners
released. AP

Prison fight
A fight between gangs at a state prison in the Mexican border city of Ciudad Juarez left at least 20 prisoners dead and seven others

Beheading trial

injured on Wednesday, police said.

A man accused of beheading and cannibalizing a fellow Greyhound bus passenger is obviously insane and not criminally responsible, the government prosecutor told a judge Wednesday in Winnipeg.

Private search

Private boats and planes searched Wednesday off Clearwater, Fla., for two NFL players and a third man missing for four days since their boat capsized in the Gulf of Mexico off Florida, family members said.

Facebook makeover

Facebook is revamping its home page—again—and plans other changes so its millions of users can more easily choose the types of information they see.

Is it a dog, Daddy?

Nope, but it's still cool. First daughters Malia and Sasha Obama came home to an after-school surprise: a brand new swing set. President Obama and First Lady Michelle had it installed Wednesday while the girls were at school.





His future's up in the air

Not a good sign. A dump truck sits on its tailgate Wednesday after getting hung up on Interstate 84 in Vernon, Conn. State police say the driver was suspended in midair inside the cab and was rescued with ladders about an hour after the incident. AP

Teeth found in Wal-Mart wallet

7 FALMOUTH, Mass. A customer shopping at a Wal-Mart for a wallet claims he found something that definitely didn't fit the bill: human teeth.

Police say the man found 10 human teeth Saturday when he unzipped a compartment in the wallet. One tooth had a filling.

The customer turned the wallet and the teeth over to employees at

the Falmouth store but left without giving his name.

Police investigating the incident told The Cape Cod Times that the teeth belong to an adult, but since there was no blood or gum tissue on the teeth, they would be unable to perform DNA tests.

A Wal-Mart spokeswoman said the company believes it was an "isolated incident," but will investigate.

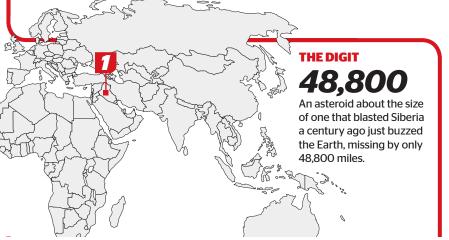
Kindle comes to the iPhone

NEW YORK You may not have the latest \$359 Kindle electronic book reader from Amazon, but if you own an iPhone or iPod Touch, a new application will let you access much of the same content on your Apple device.

In a bid to increase its slice of the e-book market, the Seattle-based online retailer rolled out a free program Wednesday that brings several of the Kindle's functions to the iPod and iPhone's smaller screen.

The program, which can be downloaded from Apple's App Store on iTunes, lets iPhone and iPod Touch users read the same electronic books that Kindle owners can buy on **amazon. com**. As with the Kindle, the iPhone app lets users change the text size on the screen, and add bookmarks, notes and highlights.

The application does not connect to the Kindle store, however, so users must access the Web browser on their iPhone, iPod or computer to buy the content. Users cannot read magazines and newspapers on the Kindle application, either.



MARCH 5, 2009 I REDEYE

IDENTITY THEFT REPORT:

IDENTITY THEFT UP 22%, HITS 5-YEAR HIGH

Identity theft protection leader strikes back with free protection offer for all

A recent survey by Javelin Strategy & Research reported 9.9 million Americans were victims of identity theft last year, an increase of 22 percent over the previous year. Another study cited in the Wall Street Journal said the cost of breaches to U.S. companies was also on the rise, with the average total perincident cost in 2008 rising to \$6.65 million*.

The fact is, that in the wake of the global economic crisis, identity theft has become big business.

"That's why I'm offering everyone with a Social Security number 30 free days of our industry-leading identity theft protection service," said Todd Davis, CEO of LifeLock.

Immediately upon enrollment, members are protected by LifeLock's \$1 Million Total Service Guarantee.

Davis is the CEO who displays his real Social Security number in LifeLock's advertising. "I know it seems crazy, and no one else should ever give out their personal information unnecessarily, but I do it because I'm confident that LifeLock works." Davis said.

"Friendly Frauds" are rising, and costlier.

According to the Javelin survey, more than one in every ten victims knew the person who stole their identity. To make matters worse, "friendly frauds" went undetected longer, had longer periods of misuse and cost consumers who knew the perpetrator more.

It also appears identity thieves are moving dramatically faster than they used to when it comes to actually using the stolen information. The survey revealed the information stolen being used by thieves in less than a week of the theft rose from 33% to 71% over the past three years.

Who is at Risk?

In this information age, anyone could be at risk, but women are 26% more likely to be victims than men.

The survey also named higher income consumers (households with combined incomes of \$75,000 or more) and Latinos as being at higher risk.

"And we haven't even started talking about young people and children," Davis said.

The problem with minors being the target of identity predators is it can take years until the theft is discovered.

"That's why I feel it's so important for everyone to be protected, and why I hope everyone takes advantage of this free opportunity," Davis added.

So, how does it work?

LifeLock combines a proactive approach designed to prevent and detect identity theft, with 24/7 customer care that works to remove the stress, anxiety and countless hours of trying to repair the damage that usually accompanies identity theft.

"At the end of the day, what LifeLock is really providing is protection and peace of mind," Davis said. "And I think we do it better than anyone else."

To get LifeLock free for 30 days call 877 508 8457 for individual memberships, or 877 508 8475 for multiple enrollments.



Todd Davis, CEO of identity theft protection company LifeLock, demonstrates his confidence by sharing his Social Security number: 457-55-5462. To protect yourself FREE for 30 days visit lifelock.com and use promotion code TRIBUNE10.

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Call one of the numbers below to protect your family **FREE for 30 days**. Representatives are available 24 hours a day. Hurry — this exclusive offer is limited only to those that call and use the promotion code below.

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MULTIPLE

TEL: 1-877-508-8475

PROMO CODE: TRIBUNE10



"When I first learned about a company called LifeLock that protects families from identity theft, my husband was skeptical. I signed us up anyway, and forgot about it. A couple of months later, on a family vacation, my husband received a phone call asking if he was applying for a new credit card. Someone was trying to steal his identity. LifeLock had stopped the thief cold." **Kim Barnes**



"I'm a former chief of police of a major city. I knew identity theft was a \$50 billion a year business, and a prime focus of organized crime. But they got me anyway. Even though I was a senior law enforcement official, it took weeks to clear my name. I decided: never again. A reporter recommended LifeLock to me and I tried them out. I've never had a problem since. I highly recommend them to you." **Bobby Jo Harris**

sports

Female basketball player's slams even get Shaq's attention

Associated Press

HOUSTON Brittney Griner can dunk.

Not one of those just-above-the-rim throw-downs that have long been accepted as the best a woman can do in games of the past. When the 6-foot-8 high school senior dunks, it can be a rimrattling, backboard-shaking, two-handed slam.

Even Shaquille O'Neal is impressed.

"It would bring a whole new dimension to the women's game," said O'Neal, who knows a thing or two about dunking and met Griner last year. He said he was amazed at how high above the rim she could reach.

Simply put, she dunks like a guy.

"It was overwhelming, obviously, the first time I did it, and I just wanted to do it more and more," she said.

Griner, who signed with Baylor, is the top player in the country, according to **rivals.com** and ESPN's HoopGurlz. She has dunked more than 50 times in games this season for Aldine Nimitz, a north Houston school. She's averaging 27 points, 12 rebounds and almost eight blocks.

"I've been doing this a long time ... but I've never seen anything like Brittney Griner," Baylor coach Kim Mulkey said.

Since Georgeann Wells of West Virginia became the first woman to dunk in an NCAA game almost 25 years ago, a handful of players have done it in college and WNBA games, including Lisa Leslie, Candace Parker of Naperville, Michelle Snow and Sylvia Fowles of the Chicago Sky.

Griner's already ridiculous measurements, which include a size 17 shoe, are even more unbelievable considering she's not finished growing. A recent exam revealed she could reach 6-10 or 6-11.

Griner's fame has been rising since a video of her dunking in practice hit YouTube two years ago. It has been viewed almost 3.4 million times, and crowds unheard of in girls basketball fill area gyms to see her play.

There were more than 6,300 fans at Nimitz's win over Ft. Bend Dulles on Friday. She dunked twice. (Video of those dunks already has received almost 30,000 views on YouTube.)

The first came after she stole the ball from fellow McDonald's All-American Kelsey Bone and finished with a one-handed dunk on the fast break.

But the second one was the real treat: Griner got the ball ahead of the crowd, shook the last defender at the top of the key and drove in for the two-hander. She hung on the rim for a couple of seconds as the stunned defender cleared out.



ABOVE: Brittney Griner soars to dunk the basketball at an outdoor court in Houston. APFILE

A DUNK IN TIME

Brittney Griner follows a long line of legends in shaping the history of the dunk. Here's a look at the slam through time. FROM NEWS SERVICES



979

Philadelphia's Darryl Dawkins shatters the glass backboard not once but two times in a span of two months, in part leading the NBA to adapt breakaway rims.



1976

The American Basketball Association holds the first slam dunk contest as part of its All-Star Game. Julius "Dr. J" Erving wins.

1984

Georgeann Wells of West Virginia becomes the first woman to dunk during a game.

1971

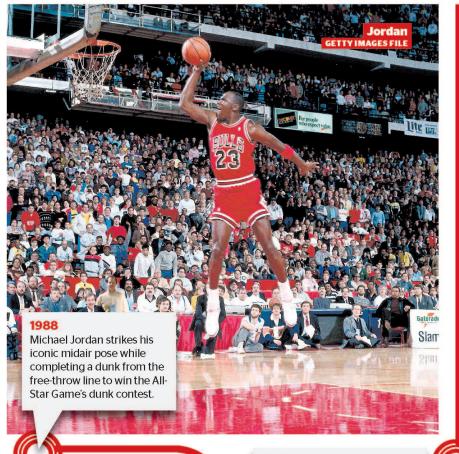
Gus Johnson of the Baltimore Bullets becomes the first NBA player to break the backboard during a game.

1006

At 5 foot 7, Spud Webb becomes the smallest player to win the NBA's dunk contest.



MARCH 5, 2009 ▮ REDEYE



With a monstrous dunk, Shaquille O'Neal of Orlando tears down the backboard during a game in Phoenix. Not to be outdone, he does it later in the year in New Jersey.



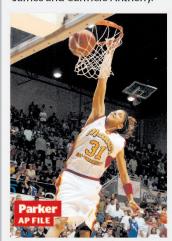
Vince Carter of Team U.S.A. performs the "dunk of death," as the French media call it. when he slammed one home over 7-foot-2 Frederic Weis of France during the Olympics.



Talk about girl power: Parker becomes the first woman to dunk twice in a single game against Army.

2004

Whatever the boys can do, Candace Parker of Naperville can do better. The then-17-yearold won the dunk contest of the McDonald's All-American Game, joining the likes of LeBron James and Carmelo Anthony.





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was the first female sideline reporter for Major League Soccer. Catch her on the 9 p.m news and at 10:10 p.m.



TOPIC

How will two games in Las Vegas change the Cubs and White Sox?

If Las Vegas had a baseball team, what would be its

nickname?

How can you tell when the World Baseball Classic starts?

When President Obama cheered the Bulls in D.C., a fan talked trash with him. What would you say to Obama?

Why would the New York Giants want Plaxico Rurress back?

JIMMY GREENFIELD jgreenfield@tribune.com

Unfortunately, all the pitchers will start throwing like craps.

The Mighty (Bleeps).

Players finally stop

announcing they're dropping

"Hev. another Bulls loss.

change."

Guess some things never

When you're trying to win a

Super Bowl you can never

have too many bullets.

LEO EBERSOLE lebersole@tribune.com

They'll leave tattooed, hungover and vomit-stained, so, no more so than any other trip.

The Pants Optionals.

ESPN will make me watch by holding a knife to my throat the Duke-Carolina treatment.

"Don't bother deploying lethal force on a D.C. sports fan. Our skulls are thick."

They're the only franchise that aims lower than he does. **TRACY SWARTZ** tswartz@tribune.com

They got game in Vegas? Fear and loathing didn't work for Leo there.

The Las Vegas Wingmen: Taking one for the team.

ADAM CALDARELLI acaldarelli@tribune.com

Bet the over on the number of times Sam Fuld makes it rain.

The Strip.

The what now?

"Ozzie and Lou" together at the Mirage taming white tigers. One night only.

redeyesports@tribune.com

AMY FREEZE

The Gamblers. Pete Rose is the mascot. Seventh-inning stretch by Kenny Rogers.

Marmol will have finally made

up his mind if he's gonna

pitch for DR or not.

When other countries start covering our bases.

"Lav off the Wizards."

"Hi, do you have a job for my

friend Rahula?"

"I'll bet you \$8 billion Brad Miller makes the next 3-pointer."

Doesn't he deserve another Another shot at the Super shot? He didn't start the fire ... Bowl.

Everybody deserves a second shot.





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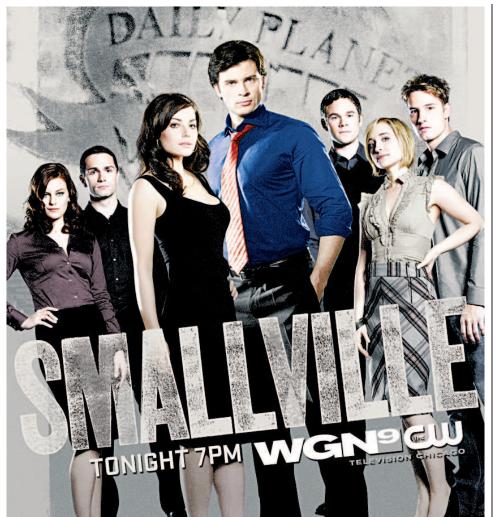
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I'd love to be in Las Vegas today. Cubs, Sox. Spring Training baseball. Losing money left and right on the slots. Robbing the Bellagio. Wait, what? Here now, my TV picks.

BASEBALL White Sox vs. Cubs 3 p.m. WGN

It's the Crosstown Classic, in Vegas. That makes it the Craps Classic.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL Illinois at Penn St. 8 p.m. ESPN

Illinois tries to pad its resume for the tourney. I'm padding mine for the downsizing.

NBA Portland at Denver 9:30 p.m. TNT

News flash: Greg Oden is out with an injury. He should play for the Cubs.



BIG PLAYERS, BIGGER MONEY

Wednesday was a big day for big deals even as the economy struggles. These guys were among the players who cashed in.



\$45M

Manny

Ramirez One of the last big free agents left in baseball. Ramirez had hoped to get even more money from the L.A. Dodgers.



\$28M Laveranues Coles

According to espn. com, Coles signed with Cincinnati for four years.



\$28M Ron **Bartell**

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported the Rams quaranteed \$13.6M for the cornerback's services.



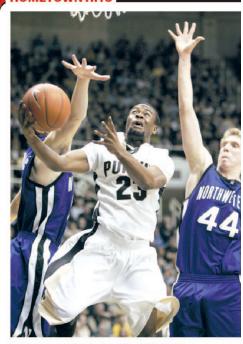
Kurt Warner

The quarterback signs with Arizona after visiting rival San Francisco.

\$9M Tim

Connolly The NHL's Buffalo Sabres locked him up for two more years.

HOMETOWN HITS



PURDUE 61

Purdue quard Lewis Jackson (center) attempts a shot between

Luka Mirkovic (left) and Kevin Coble in Northwestern's win over No. 19 Purdue. AP



CLEVELAND (SS) 5, CUBS (SS) 4

Milton Bradley had a double in three at-bats during a split-squad, 5-4 loss

to the Cleveland Indians on Wednesday.

» White Sox (ss) vs. Cubs (ss). Late.



ATHLETICS 7. WHITE SOX (SS) 2

Dana Eveland pitched two scoreless innings in the Athletics' 7-2 victory

over the White Sox on Wednesday



The Blackhawks acquired center Samuel Pahlsson on Wednesday from the Anaheim Ducks for defenseman James Wisniewski.

Thursday's games

- » Wolves at Peoria, 7 p.m.
- » Slaughter vs. Milwaukee, 7:05 p.m.

Wednesday's results

- » Bulls 110, Golden State 88
- » W. Virginia 82, DePaul 63
- E. Michigan 75, N. Illinois 61

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metromix





new bars

Looking to switch up your weekend routine? Try these new nightspots

Even in a down economy, we all still need a drink, right? Luckily, there are plenty of bars opening their doors to thirsty scenesters.

new on the scene

By Lisa Arnett
METROMIX.COM

their doors to thirsty scenesters, tough times or not.

Cagney's

2142 N. Clybourn Ave. 773-857-1111
This two-story Lincoln Park bar from a crew of New York-based nightlife entrepreneurs has us pretty confused. There's the speakeasy theme (cue waitresses in vests and fedoras) and Irish inspiration in the form of whiskey-spiked coffee, fish and chips, and a traditional Irish breakfast. But it's also a sports lounge, with big sueded booths and TVs plastered around the perimeter. The preliminary weekly music lineup seems to embrace the same more-is-more concept, with Irish music on Sundays, salsa lessons on Wednesdays and '80s mixes on Thursdays.

More bar buzz

Check out our bars section at **metromix. com** for the scoop on Tiny Lounge's new food menu, Climax's name change and what's to come in the old Reserve space.



Avila

203 W. Superior St. 312-787-8720 If this three-floor dance club reminds you uncannily of Club 720, that's because it's the same place-with a different entrance and a refreshed look. Named for the brick-walled Spanish town of Avila, the club has shifted its focus to all Latin, all the time, with dance lessons on weekend nights and a sizzling soundtrack of tunes ranging from salsa to bachata to rock en Espanol. Though there's no cocktail menu yet, the bartenders are experimenting with their own signature drinks. A short skirt and a sense of rhythm are still prerequisites to get noticed on the dance floor.

The Curragh Irish Pub

6705 N. Northwest Hwy. 773-774-6170

This previously suburban pub recently hauled its made-in-Ireland fixtures to a cozier space in Edison Park, just steps from longstanding townie pub Emerald Isle. The doors opened a few weeks ago, giving the staff just enough time to settle in before this weekend's Northwest Side Irish Parade. Choose from the standard Irish beers and snack on boxties (potato pancakes stuffed with veggies, chicken or seafood) and American fare such as burgers and wings.

Simone's Bar

960 W. 18th St. 312-666-8601
This wacky wonderland of a bar on 18th Street is Pilsen's latest attentiongetter. Go to check out the beyond-cool interior assembled from salvaged materials, and come back for the solid beer selection and super-sweet servers. Your toughest decision will be where to sit: at the bar made from bowling alley planks, in the temple-like side room filled with antique wooden columns, or in the spacious back room decked out with local artwork. Log on to metromix.com for our full review.

The Firkin & Pheasant

670 W. Diversey Pkwy. 773-327-7040

The plastic-covered menus might remind you of T.G.I. Friday's, but fear not: At this locally owned franchise of the Toronto-based Firkin pub group, the chef has free reign of the cuisine and daily specials. It's proven a solid pick for a burger and a pint in DePaul country, and the ample, comfy booth seating makes the usual stand-and-drink routine a rarity here.

The Countdown A LOOK AT NEW BARS ON THE WAY THIS SPRING

N AT INEW BARS ON THE WAT THIS SPRIN

MID-MARCH

Swagger Lounge

Eclectic entertainment, from live jazz to lesbian night, in Bronzeville

MARCH 12

District Bar

A slick River North sports bar with a gourmet twist

MID-TO LATE MARCH

Madpoison

The West Loop's perpetually delayed iBar with touchscreen ordering

LATE MARCH

The 44th Ward Dinner Party

\$1 late-night grilled cheese in the old Lakeview Broadcasting Co. space

Rootstock Beer & Wine Bar

Homey Humboldt Park drinking den

EARLY APRIL

Tilted Kilt

A sorta-Irish pub for Loop dwellers, imported from Vegas

The Rocking Horse

High Dive's retro-styled sibling in Logan Square

APRIL

Market

The sure-fire center of this summer's West Loop alfresco scene

VLive

Live music venue above Logan Square's Fuego

APRIL 10

The Stretch

Wrigleyville sports bar from the owners of Goodbar

MAY/JUNE

Old Town Social

A sprawling, grown-up gathering place with a bohemian vibe

Loft Six Ten

This long-delayed Wicker Park lounge is finally moving forward.

»Find more upcoming openings in The Countdown on **metromix.com**

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best bets

BY JULIA BORCHERTS metromix @tribune.com

THURSDAY FREEBIE

The Evening Redness

Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-489-3160.

Why stay home with your mp3 player when you can groove to a no-cover live show? These local experimental rockers are joined by glam-thrash band There's Still Time Grey Timberwolf, shoegaze/postpunk musicians Telekom and indie rock/crunk band Howling Poppies. 9 p.m. Cost: Free.

Chicago Canine Rescue Spring Benefit

Harry Caray's Tavern, 3551 N. Sheffield Ave.

Show some love for animals—and cocktails—at this afterwork mixer. It's easy: Just spend \$20 at the door and get appetizers and access to an open bar. The event raises funds for special-needs animals. 7 p.m. Cost: \$20.

'The Brown Girls Chronicles: Puerto Rican Women and Resilience'

Chicago Center for the Performing Arts, 777 N. Green St. 877-702-6633. Celebrate Women's History Month in March with local playwright Yolanda Nieves. Her collection of stories, poetry, monologues, movement and songs explores the experiences of second-generation Puerto Rican-American women, performed by a Latina cast. 7:30 p.m. Through Sunday. **Cost:** \$10-\$15.

fri The Interview Show

Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433.

Jimmy Fallon's late-night debut has flooded the national news scene, but local talk show host and RedEye humorist Mark Bazer has his own loyal following in Chicago. Watch him in action during interviews with "Check, Please!" executive producer David Manilow, DePaul University prof and gang expert Greg Scott and hip-hop poets Idris Goodwin, Usman Ally and Kelly Zen-Yie Tsai from Remy Bumppo Theatre Company's production of "American Ethnic." 6:30 p.m. **Cost:** \$5.

CINN's Round Up for Research

Carmichael's Chicago Steak House, 1052 W. Monroe St.

If the recession hasn't lassoed the spare change right out of your wallet, consider sharing your wealth with the Chicago Institute of Neurosurgery and Neuroresearch. The Wild West-themed bash includes an open bar, appetizers, line dancing, live and silent auctions, a cash raffle, live music by The Billy Childers Band, and dinner stations with vittles such as grilled baby back ribs and Southern fried chicken. 6 p.m. Cost: \$90-\$100.

2009 Chicago Flower and Garden Show

Navy Pier, 600 E. Grand Ave.

There are more than flowers sprouting at this massive annual show; budding chefs can get cooking tips during culinary demos. This weekend's lineup includes chefs Francis Brennan (Petterino's) and Ina Pinkney (Ina's) on Saturday; and Steve McDonagh and Dan Smith (The Hearty Boys) on Sunday. 10 a.m. Through March 15. \$12-\$14. 773-435-1250.

HOW TO REACH US | FOR ENTERTAINMENT INFORMATION 24/7, GO TO METROMIX.COM.

Metromix is published Monday through Saturday as part of RedEye, an edition of the Chicago Tribune. For questions, comments and story ideas, contact Matt McGuire, editor, at mmcguire@tribune.

To submit event information for Metromix or **metromix.com**, go to **metromix.com/listings**.



WITH THE GREAT BURGERELLI

gburgerelli@ tribune.com

SOLA 3868 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-327-3868



3.5 (out ketchup

Bash of the titans

In a perfect world, national burger competitions would take place every week. Imagine the outcome! Burgers everywhere would be elevated as chefs tried to outdo one another for glory and riches.

Much to the Great Burgerelli's chagrin, they do not. So when a big one does come along, such as the annual Burger Bash at the South Beach Wine & Food Festival in Miami, I take notice. This year, two local chefs, Rick Bayless and Sola's Carol Wallack, took part in the February event. Though Season 4 "Top Chef" contestant Spike Mendelsohn bested everyone, Wallack walked away

Again, in a perfect world, the Great Burgerelli would have been invited to host this celebration of burgers. Alas, Rachael Ray got the call. But I put aside my pride and paid a visit to Wallack's North Center restaurant on a recent Thursday (the only evening the burger is available; it's also on the Thursday-Friday lunch menu) to sample the goods.

with top honors for her parmesan-truffle fries.

Burgerelli's breakdown

The burger: Thick, compact and made with a halfpound of Wagyu beef-which perhaps explains the shocking \$18 (\$13 at lunch) price—this juicy patty is a thing to be savored. The texture was delightful.

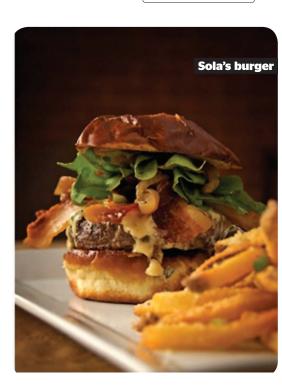
The bun: Oh, how I love a pretzel bun! This one, all buttery and soft, is a lovely example of the subset. My only quibble was with some sloppy slicing, possibly an isolated case: The tiny top was only about an inch thick, while the bottom bun was unusually hefty.

The fixings: Rarely do I see such a thoughtful combination: house-cured bacon, sweet caramelized onions and fresh arugula, with creamy cambozola literally dripping down the sides. No ketchup required.

Everything else: I was all atwitter over the awardwinning parmesan-truffle fries, so perhaps I set myself up for a letdown. They were not bad, nor were they the finest specimen I have encountered. Save for a touch of truffle oil, I didn't find them much different from other parmesan fries.

Burgerelli's bottom line: Don't bash this burger it's a winner in my book.

THE GREAT BURGERELLUS A CONNOISSEUR OF BURGERS. SEND HIM SUGGESTIONS AT GBURGERELLI@TRIBUNE.COM.



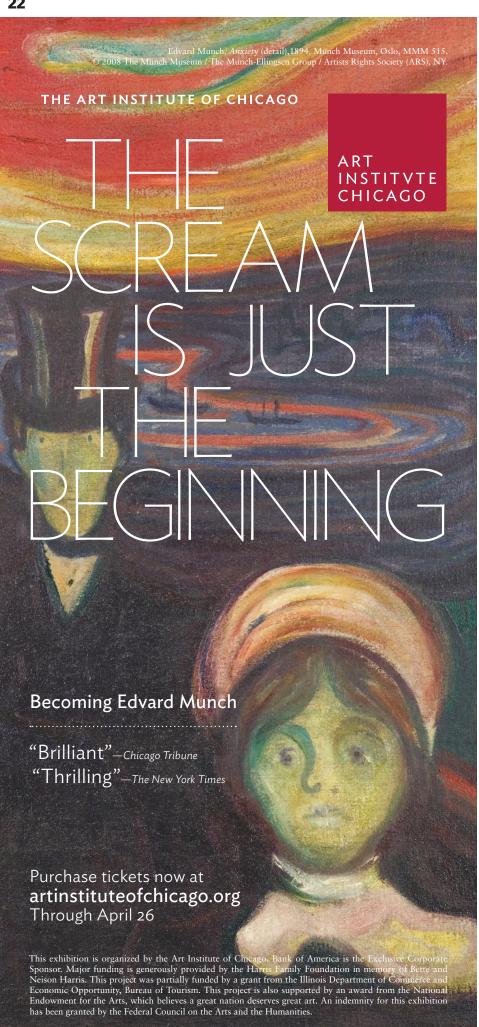
About the Great Burgerelli

Who is the Great Burgerelli, you ask? I, the Great Burgerelli, am a fearless seeker of fine burgers. Not just any burger will do. I am on a hunt for the best burger in the city, and I will leave no menu unturned. I try a new burger the first Thursday of every month. Find a chronicle of my past adventures at metromix.com.





22





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New, old formula

3 questions for the Old Style brewmaster who brought back kraeusening

By Matt McGuire

Old Style has returned to its old style.

The classic beer, which has quenched many a Cubs fan's thirst at Wrigley Field, has begun kraeusening its beer—again.

Perhaps you've heard of kraeusening. It was frequently mentioned in Old Style advertising but rarely understood. It had something to do with making beer. Probably.

Regardless, Old Style stopped the practice after moving its production to the Miller Brewing complex in Milwaukee in 1999. The new facility didn't have the right equipment, it seems.

Here's what's important: Kraeusened Old Style tastes better. We tracked down the new and old versions, and in a blind tasting among colleagues, six out of seven of us preferred the new, kraeusened Old Style.

Bob Newman, 63, has been brewing beer since 1974 at the Pabst Brewing Company, which currently owns Old Style as well as many other classic American beer brands. We tracked him down for a few quick questions.



Taste for yourself

- >> Save the date to sample Old Style's revamped brew at New Beer's Eve, March 12 at **Sluggers Sports Bar** (3540 N. Clark St. 773-248-0055).
- >> Log on to our suburbs guide at **metromix. com** for details on more New Beer's Eve events in the 'burbs Thursday and Friday.

In terms Joe Six-Pack can understand, explain kraeusening to me.

You go through a normal fermentation, which is normally five to seven days in a fermenter. As that fermentation starts to peter out because all the fermentable sugars have been gobbled up by the yeast, you add some more fresh wort or fermentable sugars. ... In effect, it becomes a secondary fermentation but at a much slower pace. ... You wind up with a smoother product. It tends to give you a more balanced beer with a cleaner finish.

How do you prefer Old Style: bottle, can or draught?

Probably the draught. We use a heat-treatment pasteurization for bottles and cans, whereas our draught—the beer in kegs—doesn't go through a heat process. It goes through a tiny filtration process called microfiltration. ... The beer doesn't get any heat damage.

You also oversee brewing for Stroh's, Old Milwaukee and Schlitz, among others. Would you be able to taste the difference between the brands in a blind taste-test?

I'm supposed to be able to. It's part of my job description. I would say 90 percent of the time I can. Popular beers tend to be very close [in taste]. Different breweries—Bud vs. Miller vs. Pabst—have a narrow rainbow of flavors peculiar to their own brand. Within those breweries you can pick out competitors.

MATT MCGUIRE IS THE METROMIX EDITOR. MMCGUIRE@TRIBUNE.COM



More beer!

Find out where else to get your Old Style fix and other drink deals online at **metromix.com**



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9:30 p.m. \$10. Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave. 773-276-3600.

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A whole lot of hits.

8 p.m. \$49.50-\$149.50. Allstate Arena, 6920 Mannheim Rd., Rosemont. 312-559-1212.

BUSTA RHYMES

Quick-tongued rapper releases yet another album, "Back on my B.S.," later this month. With Ron Browz, Red Cafe.

9 p.m. \$26.50-\$28. House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St. 312-923-2000.



Thursday concerts

ALL THINGS LUCID, THE FRONTIER **BROTHERS**

9 p.m. \$5 donation. Quenchers Saloon, 2401 N. Western Ave. 773-276-9730.

BEAK, CZAR, (-O-)

8 p.m. Cover varies. Bottom Lounge, 1375 W. Lake St. 312-666-

BIG C JAMBOREE

9:30 p.m. Free. Martyrs', 3855 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-404-

BOBBY WATSON OUARTET

8 and 10 p.m. Cover varies. Jazz Showcase, 806 S. Plymouth Ct. 312-360-0234

THE DELISFORT **PROJECT**

8:30 p.m. Cover varies. The Velvet Lounge, 67 E. Cermak Rd. 312-791-9050.

EMERGENZA MUSIC FESTIVAL: THE FULLERTONS, **LET IT LAST, LOSING** SCARLET, IGNITION THEORY, DOXI, SABLE BELDAM.

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Elbo Room, 2871 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-549-5549.

REDNESS. THERE'S STILL TIME **GREY TIMBERWOLF,** TELEKOM. **HOWLING POPPIES**

THE EVENING

9 p.m. Free. Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-489-3160.

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9 p.m. \$7. Ronny's, 2101 N. California Ave. mpshows.com

FRANK CATALANO BAND

9 p.m. \$10. Andy's Jazz Club, 11 E. Hubbard St. 312-642-6805.

THE HARD LESSONS. MY DEAR DISCO

8 p.m. \$10. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 312-559-1212.

JONATHAN TYLER AND THE NORTHERN **LIGHTS**

8 p.m. \$5. Joe's, 940 W. Weed St. 312-377-3486.

JUDSON CLAIBORNE, HOTEL **BROTHERHOOD**

9 p.m. \$8. Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433.

LEMONDROP

7 p.m. \$5. Bill's Blues Bar. 1029 Davis St., Evanston. 847-424-9800.

LURRIE BELL

9:30 p.m. \$10. Buddy Guy's Legends, 754 S. Wabash Ave. 312-427-0333.

MICHAEL WAGNER

9 p.m. Tips/donations. Uncommon Ground on Clark, 3800 N. Clark St. 773-929-3680.

MURLEY SHERTZ, SAVE HAVEN

10 p.m. Free. Cubby Bear, 1059 W. Addison St. 773-327-1662.

NANETTE FRANK **AND FRIENDS**

7 p.m. \$10. Little Black Pearl Art and Design Center. 1060 E. 47th St. 773-285-1211.

RETRIBUTION GOSPEL CHOIR. UNICYCLE LOVES YOU, INCHWORM

8:30 p.m. \$10. Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave. housecallent.com

TEALEAF GREEN. OUTFORMATION

8 p.m. \$20. Park West. 322 W. Armitage Ave. 312-559-1212, 773-929-5959

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9 p.m. \$10 suggested donation. Uncommon Ground on Devon, 1401 W. Devon Ave. 773-465-9801

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MARCH 5, 2009 I REDEYE ★ music

MER-aculous

Singer-songwriter's musical journey has been a family affair

By Kent Green

FOR REDEYE

If MER's songs sound like he's been making music his whole life, well, that's pretty much right.

Born Edmer Abante, the Chicago-based singer-songwriter started playing piano when he was in grade school and soon began singing and taking lessons in classical guitar. He's

chitunes

When: 9 p.m.,

MER

March 13

Where:

McDunna's,

Tickets: \$5, 773-929-0944

1505 W. Fullerton

mixed those influences into a blend of soulful pop rock that showcases his impressive vocal talents and heartfelt lyrics.

MER (pronounced "murh") got the taste for music from his extended family.

"Our Christmas parties were jam ses-

sions," he said. "It's just part of the Filipino culture. That definitely influenced me to become a performer and to create that fun vibe."

He credits his parents, who emigrated from the Philippines in 1977, for giving him his work ethic.

MER said that one of the toughest things he's ever had to do was tell his parents he was dropping out of college in 2000 to pursue music full-time.

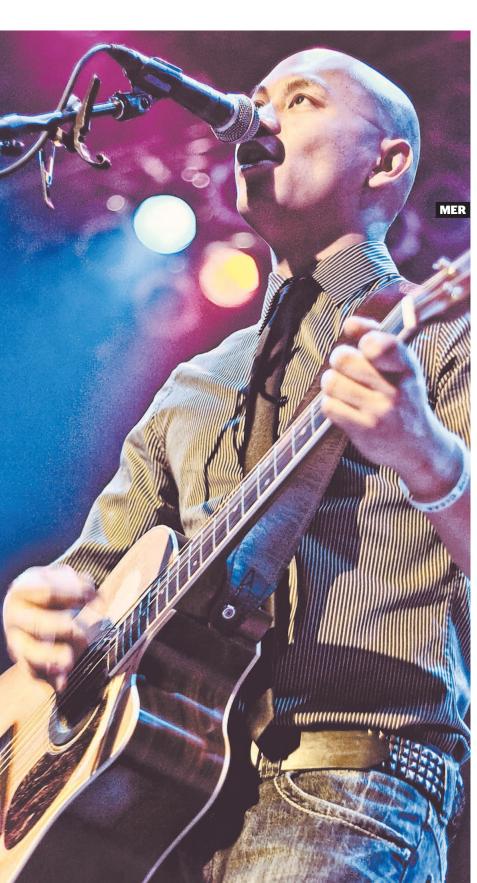
But as they've watched his notoriety grow with his 2007 LP "Handwritten" and his just-released EP "Rockstar," they've embraced his decision.

MER is working on a family of his own. He's got a 2-year-old daughter and a r-year-old son. That has made him more serious about pursuing music as a career, but he also teaches guitar, voice and songwriting at a Hinsdale music academy.

"I turned 30 in December," he said. "I've already gone this far. People ask me, 'When are you going to stop?' It's not a matter of when I stop. I will never cease to pursue my passion."

KENT GREEN IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

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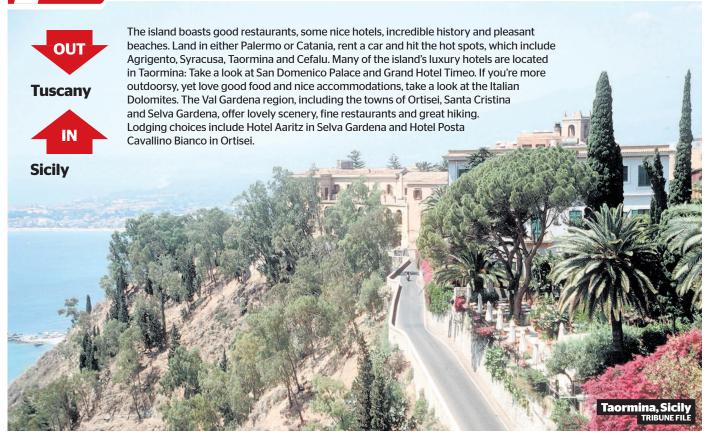
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MARCH 5, 2009 | REDEYE

pop



Honeymoon hideaways

Think honeymoon, and certain destinations come to mind: Hawaii, Tahiti, St. Lucia, Mexico, Bermuda, to name a few. For some, being at a Sandals in Jamaica with lots of other honeymooners is ideal. But others may want all the perks of a traditional honeymoon without the crowds. Here are some alternatives. THE WASHINGTON POST



Costa del Sol

coast of Spain





You may very well spend a week there without seeing another American, especially outside of the summer season. Fly into Alicante, rent a car and head north. The coast is dotted with small fishing/tourist villages that offer nice lodging and lovely promenades with wine bars and restaurants. Take a look at the Hotel La Sort in the town of Moraira.





American accents

European accents

If spending time away from other Americans is appealing, Austria has regions where you'll spend days without hearing any English, much less an American accent. In Upper Austria, several incredibly scenic lakes—Traunsee, Attersee and Mondsee—are ringed with villages that offer lodging, restaurants, etc. The town of Gmunden on Lake Traunsee is a favorite. If you like spa towns, consider Bad Schallerbach, which offers outdoor music festivals and a fine spa.





Pricey sand

Cheap sand

If you like the idea of the Caribbean, but you don't want to spend your days drinking pina coladas on the beach, try an island that offers alternatives. For nature lovers, consider Dominica—it's not the best for beaches, but it offers great hiking, birdwatching and snorkeling. Plus the price is right: Rates typically are much cheaper than what's found on other more touristed islands. Lodging options include Beau Rive, Zandoli Inn, Crescent Moon Cabins and Calibishie Lodges



Tourists venture across a suspension bridge in a Costa Rican rainforest. MCT FILE





Costa Rica beaches

Costa Rica rainforest

If you're set on Costa Rica, it's fine to do the beach-and-zipwire thing, but also consider spending a few days in the country's rainforest. Take a look at Selva Verde Lodge in Sarapiqui, which offers isolated individual cabins set in the forest, plus whitewater rafting, hiking and other outdoorsy pursuits.



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JOANNA GUSTAFSON FOR REDEYE

600 N. MICHIGAN (AMC)

Show times change daily &

2828 North Clark St., Chicago

■ Doubt (PG-13) 1:55.4:45.10:10 ■ The Class (PG-13) 3:10,6:30,9:45 ■ Revo Road (R) 3:20,6:20

2600 N. Western Ave

(800) 326-3264 #1642

■ Powerful (NR) ★ 6:30 P.M.

■ Watchmen (R) * 12:01 A.M.

■ Two Lovers (R) 1:40,4:20,7:20,9:50 ■ Slumdog Mill (R) 1:45,4:40,7:40,9:15,10:30 ■ Milk (R) 1:30,4:30,7:30,10:20 ■ The Reader (R) 3:15,6:45,10:00

CITY NORTH 14 (KERASOTES)

■ Powerful (NR) ★ 8.30 P.M.
■ Jonas Brothers (G) ★ ★ 1:40,3:50,6:05,8:15,10:20
■ Street Fighter (PG-13) ★ 1:00,3:30,6:20,9:10
■ Echelon (PG-13) ★ 2:20,5:20,8:00,10:45
■ Madea Goes (PG-13) ★ 1:240,3:00,5:30,7:50,10:30
■ Fried Up (PG-13) ★ 1:240,3:00,5:30,7:50,10:30
■ Friday the 13th (R) 2:20,5:00,7:40,10:15
■ International (R) 6:50,9:45
■ Confess-Shop (PG) 12:30,3:10
■ He's Just Not (PG-13) 1:2:50,3:40,6:40,9:40
■ Pink Panther 2 (PG) 1:20,4:05
■ Push (PG-13) 1:50,4:50,7:30,10:40
■ Coraline 3D (PG) ★ 1:10,4:15,7:00,9:50
■ Taken (PG-13) (Closed caption) 2:10,5:10,7:45,10:10
■ Blart: Mall Cop (PG) 2:00,4:40,7:10,9:30

(773) 509-4949

Watchmen (R) 12:01 A.M.

AMC Select - The best specialty films

■ Street Fighter (PG-13) 2:15,5:00,7:40,10:10
■ Madea Goes (PG-13) 1:30,4:15,7:00,9:45

■ Madea Goes (PG-13) 1:30,4:15,7:00,9:45
■ International (R) 2:00,4:50,7:50,10:40
■ Friday the 13th (R) 1:35,6:45
■ Confess-Shop (PG) 1:50,4:40,7:20
■ He's Just Not (PG-13) 1:00,4:00,7:10,10:20
■ AMC Select Slumdog Mill (R) 1:15,4:30,7:30,10:30
■ Blart: Mall Cop (PG) 3:00,5:45,8:15
■ AMC Select Gran Torino (R) 3:50,9:00

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600 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago



MUSIC **Marissa Nadler**

"Little Hells"

This 27-year-old chanteuse has the sort of gorgeous, whispery voice that's probably equally loved and envied/resented by people who wish they could sing. The self-taught guitarist follows her three previous solo records of drifting, dreamy Americana with "Hells," which exhibits spacey, wandering beauty throughout.

MATT PAIS, METROMIX

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\$168 at Bloomingdale's The pattern on this tote from Marc by Marc Jacobs is positively spring. The bag is big enough to hold all your necessities. Made of cotton canvas and leather, the bag folds up easily for stylish travel and smart packing.

JOANNA GUSTAFSON FOR REDEYE



American Idol

7 p.m. Thursday, Fox

Nine of the Top 12 finalists have been chosen. Did one of your favorite singers not make the cut? There's still hope, as the judges bring back their eliminated faves to sing again. Then Simon (right), Randy, Paula and Kara choose the final three. **curt wagner**, **redeve**



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DAVIS THEATRE (VALUE) 4614 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago

(773) 784-0893

■ Milk (R) 5:00,7:40,10:15

■ He's Just Not (PG-13) 4:50,7:40,10:10
■ Slumdog Mill (R) 5:10,7:30,10:00

■ Hotel for Dogs (PG) 5:00 P.M. ■ Doubt (PG-13) 7:30,9:45

FORD CITY 14 (AMC)

S. Cicero at 76th, Chicago (773) 582-1839 Show times change daily

AMC Select - The best specialty films

■ Street Fighter (PG-13) 2:00,4:30,7:00,9:20

Fired Up (PG-13) 4:20,6:45,9:15

■ Madea Goes (PG-13) 1:30,2:10,3:30,4:10,4:45,6:10,6:50, 7:30,8:50,9:30,10:00

■ International (R) 7:00,9:45 ■ Friday the 13th (R) 2:30,5:00,6:35,7:35,9:00,9:55

Confess-Shop (PG) 2:15,4:50,7:20,9:50
 Pink Panther 2 (PG) 2:00,4:15
 Push (PG-13) 1:50 P.M.

- Coraline (PG) 1:55.7.W. - Coraline (PG) 1:55.7.25,7:40,10:00 - Taken (PG-13) 3:15,5:20,7:40,10:00 - AMC Select Slumdog Mill (R) 1:35,4:20,7:15,9:50 - Hotel for Page (PG) 2000 1:50

■ Hotel for Dogs (PG) 2:20,4:40 ■ Blart: Mall Cop (PG) 1:45,4:05,6:20,8:40

GENE SISKEL FILM CENTER

164 State Street 312-846-2800

■ Bigger Life (NR) 8:15

■ Rebel Without (PG-13) 6:00 ■ Forgiveness (NR) 8:15 ■ David Gatt (NR) 6:00

LOGAN THEATRE

2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago (773) 252-0628

■ Blart: Mall Cop (PG) 2:10,4:10,6:10,8:10 ■ Frost/Nixon (R) 2:15,5:55 ■ Benjamin Button (PG-13) 8:05 P.M. ■ The Uninvited (PG-13) 2:00,3:40,5:20,7:00,8:40 ■ Hotel for Dogs (PG) 2:00,4:05,6:10,8:20

MUSIC BOX

3733 N. Southport, Chicago (773) 871-6604

■ Gomorra (NR) 5:20,8:30 ■ The Wrestler (R) 5:15,7:30,9:45

PIPERS ALLEY (AMC) 1608 N. Wells, Chicago

(312) 642-7500 Show times change daily

AMC Select - The best specialty films

AMC Select - Title Deat Speciarry Times

Delhi 6 (NR) 6:30 P.M.

AMC Select The Wrestler (R) 2:30,5:00,7:30

AMC Select Waltz-Bashir (R) 2:50,7:45

Twilight (PG-13) 2:45,5:05

AMC Select Rachel Getting (R) 2:10,4:45,7:00

RIVER EAST 21 (AMC) 322 E. Illinois Street

847-765-7262

Show times change daily

Show times change daily

■ Watchmen (R) 12:01 A.M.
■ Powerful Noise (NR) 6:30 P.M.
■ Jonas Brothers (G) ◆ 12:45,3:00.5:15,7:30.9:45
■ AMC Select Echelon (PG-13) 2:10,4:55,7:45,10:30
■ Fired Up (PG-13) 12:50,3:25,6:05,8:45
■ Madea Goes (PG-13) 1:50,2:50,4:45,5:45,7:40,8:40,10:35
■ International (R) 2:00,5:00,8:15
■ Friday the 13th (R) 14:04,3:07,7:15,9:55
■ Confess-Shop (PG) 1:30,4:20,7:20,10:15
■ He's Just Not (PG-13) 1:05,2:05,4:15,7:35,10:50
■ Pink Panther 2 (PG) 12:50,3:20,6:15
■ Coraline (PG) 1:15,4:05,6:45,9:30
■ Taken (PG-13) 12:30,3:00,5:30,8:10,10:40
■ AMC Select Milk (R) 2:15,5:10,8:10
■ AMC Select Flevo Road (R) 2:20,5:20,8:30
■ AMC Select Flevo Road (R) 2:20,5:20,8:30
■ AMC Select FrostNixton (R) 4:10 P.M.
■ AMC Select FrostNixton (R) 4:

CROWN VILLAGE 18 (KERASOTES)

(800) 326-3264 #2309

■ Watchmen (R) ★ 12:01 A.M. Jonas Brothers (G) ★ 11:30,1:40,3:50,6:05,8:15 Street Fighter (PG-13) ★ 12:10,2:40,5:20,7:45,10:15 Echelon (PG-13) ★ 12:20,3:10,6:20,9:00 Madea Goes (PG-13) ★ 12:04,2:07,2:20,10:00

redeye chicago.com/ showpatrol

G - General audience PG - Parental guidence suggested
PG-13 - Parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13
R - Restricted, under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian NC-17 - No one 17 and under admitted

■ Fired Up (PG-13) ★ 2:00,4:40,7:10,9:45 ■ Friday the 13th (R) 12:00,2:30,5:10,7:50,10:10

■ Friday the 13th (R) 12:00.2:30,5:10,7:50,10:10
■ International (R) 6:15,9:00
■ Confess-Shop (PG) 1:30.4:10,6:50,9:20
■ He's Just Not (PG-13) 12:40,3:40,6:40,9:40
■ Pink Pamther 2 (PG) 1:10,3:45
■ Push (PG-13) 7:40,10:25
■ Coralina 3D (PG) 11:40,2:10,4:50,7:30,9:55
■ Taken (PG-13) 11:45,2:50,5:30,8:00,10:30
■ Hotel for Dogs (PG) 11:50,2:20,5:00
■ Blart: Mall Cop (PG) 11:20,1:50,4:15,6:45,9:10
■ The Reader (R) 1:15,4:20,7:15,10:05
■ Benjamin Button (PG-13) 12:50,4:45,8:20
■ The Wrestler (R) 12:45,3:30,6:30
■ Milk (R) 1:00,4:00,7:00,9:50

■ Milk (R) 1:00,4:00,7:00,9:50 ■ Slumdog Mill (R) 12:30,3:20,6:10,9:15

WEBSTER PLACE (KERASOTES)

1471 W. Webster Ave., Chicago

(800) 326-3264 #1641

(800) 326-3264 #1641

■ Watchmen (R) ± 12:01 A.M.

■ Powerful (NR) ± 6:30 P.M.

■ Jonas Brothers (G) ± 1:40,3:50,6:05,8:15,10:20

■ Madea Goes (PG-13) ± 12:40,3:30,8:30,9:10

■ International (R) 1:10,4:10,7:10,10:10

■ Confess-Shop (PG) 1:00,3:40,6:40,9:20

■ He's Just Not (PG-13) 12:50,1:20,4:20,7:20,10:15 P.M.

■ Coraline (PG) 1:15,4:00,6:45,9:30

■ Taken (PG-13) 1:30,4:30,7:00,10:00

■ Benjamin Button (PG-13) 2:30,6:15,9:50

■ Gran Torino (R) 2:00,5:00,7:50,10:40

■ Frost/Nixon (R) 1:50,4:40,7:40,10:30

SHOWPLACE 14 - GALEWOOD CROSSINGS (KERASOTES) E. Side of Central Ave., just S. of Grand Ave

(800) 326-3264 #1646

(800) 326-3264 #1646

Jonas Brothers (G) 1:40,3:50,6:05,8:15,10:20

Street Fighter (PG-13) 2:10,5:00,7:30,10:00

Echelon (PG-13) 1:45,4:15,7:00,9:40

Madea Goos (PG-13) 1:00,2:00,2:30,3:40,4:40,5:10,6:10,7:10,7:50,9:15,9:50,10:30

Fired Up (PG-13) 1:50,4:20,6:50,9:30

Fired when 13th (R) 1:30,4:00,6:30,9:10

Coraline (PG) 1:10,4:10,6:45,9:20

Push (PG-13) 1:20,4:30,7:15,10:15

The Uninvited (PG-13) 2:20,4:50,7:20,10:10

Taken (PG-13) 1:240,3:30,6:20,9:00

Blart: Mall Cop (PG) 2:15,5:15,7:40,10:05

Slumdog Mill (R) 12:50,3:45,6:40,9:45

CICERO SHOWPLACE 14 (KERASOTES)

4779 W. Cermak (800) 326-3264 #1644

(800) 326-3264 #1644

Watchmen (R) ★ 12:01 A.M.

Jonas Brothers (G) ★ ★14:0:3:50.6:05.8:15,10:20

Street Fighter (PG-13) ★2:10.5:20,7:30,10:00

Echelon (Per (PG-13) ★1:57:70,9:40

#17:07-50.9:15,9:50,10:30

Fired Up (PG-13) ★1:50,4:20,6:50,9:30

Fired Up (PG-13) ★1:50,4:20,6:50,9:30

Friday the 13th (R) 1:30,4:20,6:30,9:10

Coraline (PG) 1:10,4:10,6:45,9:20

Push (PG-13) 1:20,4:30,7:15,10:15

The Univited (PG-13) 2:20,4:50,7:20,10:10

Taken (PG-13) 1:240,3:30,6:20,9:00

Blart: Mall Cop (PG) 2:15,5:15,7:40,10:05

Slumdog Mill (R) 12:50,3:45,6:40,9:45

OAK PARK LAKE CINEMAS (CLASSIC)

630-444-FILM #560

1022 Lake Street

Jonas Brothers (G) 12:00,1:50,3:40,5:30,7:20,9:10
 The Reader (R) 1:15,4:00,6:45,9:25
 Doubt (RG-13) 12:25,2:45,5:05,7:25,9:45
 Milk (R) 1:40,4:25,7:10,9:55
 He's Just Not (RG-13) 1:30,4:15,7:05,9:50
 Taken (RG-13) 1:00,3:10,5:20,7:30,9:40
 Slumdog Mill (R) 2:00,4:40,7:20,10:00
 Watchmen (R) 12:01 Midnight

EVANSTON CENTURY 12/CINEARTS 6 (CENTURY)

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(847)492-0123 🕏

(847)492-0123 &

Powerful Noise (NR) ★ 6:30

Coraline (FG) ★ 11:55.2:25,4:55,7:35,9:55

Jonas Brothers (G) ★ 12:30,2:40,4:50,7:00,9:10

Street Fighter (PG-13) ★ 12:00,2:40,4:50,7:00,9:10

Watchmen (R) ★ 12:01 Midnight

Cornless School (School 1) ★ 12:00,2:40,6:50,7:00,9:40

Watchmen (R) ★ 12:01 Midnight

Friday the 13th (R) 12:15,2:45,5:15,7:45,10:15

Gran Torino (R) 1:30,4:40,7:30,10:15

He's Just Not (PG-13) 12:55,4:05,7:10,10:20

Milk (R) 31:5,10:20

Pink Panther 2 (PG) 12:55,3:00,5:25,7:50,10:10

Slumdog Mill (R) 12:04,1:10,7:05

Taken (PG-13) 12:45,3:05,5:30,7:55,10:30

The Class (PG-13) 105,4:10,7:10,10:10

Benjamin Button (PG-13) 11:45,6:50

International (R) 1:40,4:30,7:25,10:05

The Reader (R) ★ 1:10,4:30,7:25,10:05

The Reader (R) ★ 1:10,4:20,5:00,7:40,10:25

Madea Goes(PG-13) ★ 11:35,12:50,2:05,3:25,4:40,7:15,9:45

www.zap2it.com What to Watch

ZAP 2 *it*

Whovile BY WALSH

Just hit shuffle Red Eye charts the week's best music buzz



He's still performing, but his appearance before an Atlanta federal judge looms this month. According to Vibe, that's when he'll officially be sentenced to prison for felony gun charges.

23 min.

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WEDNESDAY'S SOLUTIONS

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ACROSS

- Woman with a book
- Fills with wonder
- Secluded valley
- Gainer or swan Roam
- Emphasized Gershwin and Levin
- Beatitude
- Leave home
- Scarlet, e.g.
- Kathy Bates movie
- Peak in Thessaly
- Bikini top Repast remnants
- Sand hill
- Peter and Franco
- Most constricted
- Missed the boat Outer opposite
- Fitzgerald Lawn waterer
- High-fiber fruit
- "Seinfeld" character
- Sch. org. Man-made fiber
- Novel objects Lie a little
- Judah's son
- Overly pompous Money factory
- Sicilian volcano Painter Max
- Milanese eight
- Cloth scraps
- 69 Tint again

DOWN

- Musical work Window square
- Impolite Ginger
- Farewell, Yves

65

- Passover repasts Pulverize

12/24 and 12/31

- Tanguay and Gabor Highland loch
- _ of London College heads "Beau _"
- Theme

42

- Teheran man
- 29 Vend30 Halloween ride?31 Awaken32 Star-like bloom
- 35 37 39 Shoshones Hawke or Coen
- Frost's Muse
- Sharpshooter Annie Plundering during
- Anne Rice novel
- members Painted pony Gam and Moreno
- Italian resort lake
- Module Talk wildly
- Speck 58 Discovery
- Teeny
- 60 Memory unit 63 Mineral deposit

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'Public' display

Don't blink or you might miss it. In the newly released trailer for "Public Enemies," starring Johnny Depp and Christian Bale, you can see what looks like the stretch of Lincoln Avenue - from Fullerton Avenue to Montana Street-filmmakers took over last year to film the gangster flick set in '30s Chicago. In the movie, set to hit theaters in July, Depp plays Depression-era bank robber John Dillinger; Bale is the FBI agent assigned to bring him down.





Kevin Smith received an honorary degree from which Illinois university? Text "degree" and the number of your answer to 47383. You'll get a text back telling you whether you got it right.

- 1. Illinois Wesleyan University
- 2. Northwestern University
- 3. University of Illinois
- 4. University of Chicago

MAY 18: When the fifth edition of "The Bachelorette" premieres, featuring Jillian Harris, a contestant from the latest season of "The Bachelor."



the mind," Variety reports.

Sci-fi DiCaprio

Leonardo DiCaprio is going sci-fi. The "Revolutionary Road" star is on board for a role in "Inception," which was written and will be directed by "The Dark Knight" director Christopher Nolan, according to variety.com. The film, planned for a summer 2010 release, is "a contemporary sci-fi actioner set within the architecture of

Got sushi?

Months after Jeremy Piven pulled out of his "Speed-the-Plow" role on Broadway with claims of rising mercury levels due to a

sushi-heavy diet, OK Magazine reports the "Entourage" star apparently just can't quit raw fish. According to OK, Piven recently was spotted dining on tuna tartar at the Mondrian Hotel's Sunset Lounge in Hollywood.

Weezy TV

Ready for prom, Lil Wayne-style? Check out the rapper's new, rock-infused "Prom Queen" video. Weezy debuted the official full-length clip Wednesday on Jimmy Kimmel's YouTube channel. It features, among other things, a guitar-playing Wayne, an '80s movie high-school theme and-believe it or not-a whole lot of newspaper headlines.

So close ...

Androgyny isn't working for Chicagoan Chris Cohen on "Make Me a Supermodel." The 22year-old ended up in the bottom two on the Bravo's reality competition show Wednesday. "Christine. Chris... He needed a handbag for the catwalk," photographer Perou said. The judges kept Cohen, and kicked off Ken-for Cohen being too manly.





card, Variety reports.

Smith goes major

Director Kevin Smith has signed on for his first

major flick, variety.com reports. "A Couple of

Cops" will star Bruce Willis and Tracy

Morgan in a detective comedy that

centers on a pair of cops who deal

with gangsters, drug money, a

Mexican beauty-and a baseball



Drinks after work in the Loop!



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